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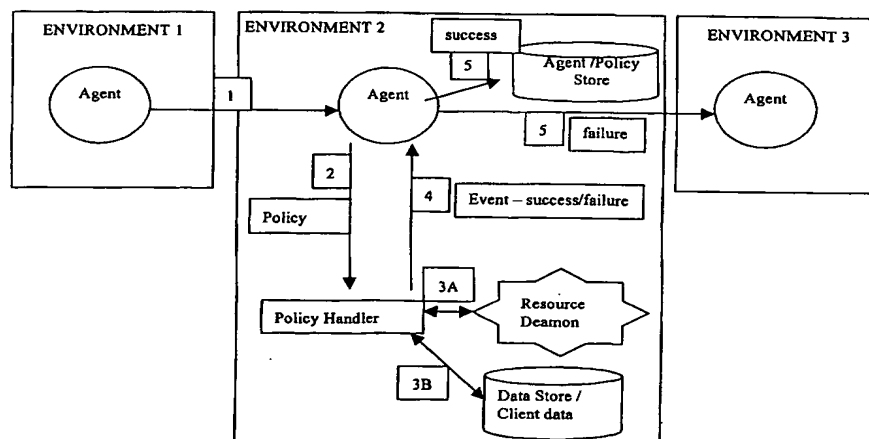
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(54) Title: **DISTRIBUTED STORAGE NETWORK**



(57) Abstract: A distributed storage network of computers is disclosed in which a determination as to whether to store a data item at a computer connected to said network is made in dependence on a policy document associated with that data item. The policy document is constructed in accordance with a Document Type Definition expressed in eXtensible Markup Language (XML).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, INSPEC, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	ROBERTSON D ET AL: "Persistent, Reliable, Decentralised File Storage - DFS" LONDON COMMUNICATIONS SYMPOSIUM, XX, XX, 9 September 2002 (2002-09-09), pages 1-4, XP002302658	1,15-19
Y	cited in the application the whole document ----- -/--	2-14

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	SMITHSON A ET AL: "Engineering an agent-based peer-to-peer resource discovery system" AGENTS AND PEER-TO-PEER COMPUTING. FIRST INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP, AP2PC 2002. REVISED AND INVITED PAPERS (LECTURE NOTES IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE VOL.2530) SPRINGER-VERLAG BERLIN, GERMANY, 15 July 2002 (2002-07-15), pages 69-80, XP002302657	2-14
A	ISBN: 3-540-40538-0 the whole document	1,15-19
A	----- WEATHERSPOON H ET AL: "Silverback: A global-scale archival system" INTERNET, March 2001 (2001-03), pages 1-15, XP002302722 BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA abstract; sections 3.1, 3.3., 4.3, 4.3.1	1-19
A	----- MOJO NATION DOCS: "Technology Overview of Mojo Nation" INTERNET, 14 February 2000 (2000-02-14), pages 1-5, XP002177454 the whole document	1-19